

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are in this application.

According to the Examiner, claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This is respectfully traversed.

However, to expedite prosecution, the preamble of Claim 1 has been amended to insert "mevinolinic acid of formula (II)" after "lactonisation" .

In addition, part e) of claim has been amended to define that the purity of Lovastatin (I) is $\geq 98.70\%$. Support for this amendment is found, inter alia, in part B (Purification of impure Lovastatin (I)) in Scheme I on page 10 of the specification and examples 4, 5 and 6.

Support for the amendment in part f) of claim 1 to define Lovastatin (I) of purity $> 99.3\%$, is found, inter alia, in Part B of Scheme 1 on page 10 of the specification, page 16, lines 3-5 and in the example 10.

Support for the amendment to claim 2 to define the purity as $\geq 99.5\%$ is found, inter alia, on page 16, lines 22-24, the chart on page 17, in examples 8 and 9 and part C of scheme I on page 10 of the specification.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 USC 112 be withdrawn.

If any fees for this paper are required, they may be charged to our deposit account 12-0425.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Cord", written over a horizontal line.

JANET I. CORD

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